



## **MEETING RECAP**

# **VISION 2050 SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN**

### **AD HOC REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 3, 2009

**Location:** Municipal Plaza "B" Room

**Subject:** Vision 2050 San Antonio International Airport Master Plan

The meeting was convened at: 3:00pm

**Attendees:**

*Ad Hoc Regional Advisory Committee members:*

The Honorable Julian Castro, Mayor, City of San Antonio

Ruth Agather, Tuggey Rosenthal Pauerstein Sandoloski Agather

Mari Aguirre, Rackspace Hosting, Inc.

The Honorable Elisa Chan, City of San Antonio, District 9

The Honorable John Clamp, City of San Antonio, District 10

Rebeckah Day, St. Mary's University

Dan Decker, SeaWorld

Barbara Gentry, USAA

Mario Hernandez, San Antonio Economic Development Foundation

Joe Linson, JEL & Associates

Isidro Martinez, San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Denver McClendon, Alamo Colleges

Naomi Miller, Office of Speaker Joe Straus

Ross Milloy, Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District

Keith Parker, VIA Metropolitan Transit

The Honorable Howard Peak, AT&T

Richard Perez, Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Bill Rasco, Greater San Antonio Hospital Council

Suzanne Scott, San Antonio River Authority

Sheryl Sculley, City of San Antonio

Colonel William "Woody" Watkins, 19<sup>th</sup> Air Force

Scott White, Convention and Visitors Bureau

Duane Wilson, North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce



*Representing the San Antonio International Airport:*

Frank Miller, Aviation Director

Barbara Prossen, Community Relations

Richard Johnson, Public Relations Director

*Representing the project team:*

Holland Young, Jacobs Consultancy

Julie Gueho, Jacobs Consultancy

Larry Bauman, AECOM

Jeff Webster, AECOM

Michael Gallis, Gallis and Associates

Jeff Coyle, KGBTexas

Lynlie Wallace, KGBTexas

**Introduction:**

1. Mayor Julian Castro opened the meeting, thanked the committee members for their participation and discussed the importance of the master plan project.
2. Frank Miller, Aviation Director for the City of San Antonio, introduced the project team and discussed the current state of the airport.
3. Larry Bauman, project manager from AECOM presented the meeting agenda and provided an overview of the Vision 2050 Airport Master Plan. He indicated the mission of the 18-month project is to develop a master plan for the San Antonio International Airport (SAT) that supports and enhances the future mission of the San Antonio region. Vision 2050 will include a specific master plan for the next 20 years of the airport's growth to ensure the airport's site and facilities can accommodate demand and activity through 2030. The master plan will also look at the airport's long-term role in the region and how it best serves as an engine for economic growth, enhances trade relationships, facilitates an integrated multimodal transportation system and protects the region's natural, historical and cultural resources. The master plan will be community-driven, guided by approximately 100 people on three advisory committees that represent a broad cross-section of the San Antonio community. Committee members include representatives of government, business, military, tourism, transportation, environment, real estate, neighborhoods and the arts.
4. Holland Young, project manager with Jacobs Consultancy discussed airport activity and outlined existing airport facilities.



A power point presentation served as the format for discussion. A copy of the presentation will be made available on the project web site:

[www.sanantonio.gov/aviation](http://www.sanantonio.gov/aviation)

5. Michael Gallis, representing Gallis and Associates, discussed the context for the master plan and explained the process for developing a vision for the airport. After his presentation, Mr. Gallis asked each committee member to provide their opinion of and goals and vision for the airport.

### **Round table discussion:**

Committee members offered the following goals and observations regarding San Antonio International Airport and the Vision 2050 Master Plan. Their comments are organized in the following subject areas below.

#### *Economic Development*

- The airport should be a key piece of economic development in San Antonio and the region.
- We must determine how more revenue can be generated on the airport grounds.
- As an economic generator, the airport should experience a mix of passenger and cargo flights.
- We need to increase our focus on the regional impact of moving people and goods.
- We should focus economic development efforts on airport grounds.
- We must identify ways to increase trade flow and market share.
- We need to look for revenue opportunities in order to lower gate fees.
- Prices must be competitive compared to other airports in Texas.

#### *Convenience*

- It should be easier for travelers to get in and out of the airport.
- Travelers should be able to move efficiently through the airport
- The airport should be user friendly.
- The master plan should include a comprehensive plan for convenience.
- The airport is difficult to use.
- The airport should be convenient for locals as well as tourists.

#### *Vision and Planning*



- We must be mindful of the role the airport will play 20, 30 and 40 years from now, specifically how it will be a part of the transportation system.
- The master plan should incorporate other airports (Stinson, Port San Antonio, etc.) in the region to create synergy.
- We need to develop thresholds and triggers as part of the master plan to determine when to build a third terminal.
- We must stay abreast of technological advancements to ensure we are providing infrastructure and facilities to meet the needs of airlines.
- We need to think long term about growth.
- Everything must be on the table during the master planning process.
- We shouldn't be concerned with making our airport a hub. SAT can be a differentiator in other ways.
- The military must be included in our discussion and planning activities to ensure the airport meets their needs.
- The decision to consolidate car rental facilities should be discussed during the planning process.

#### *Infrastructure*

- Infrastructure must support all activity in and around the airport.
- Infrastructure must be developed and planned accurately to increase economic development opportunities in and around the airport.

#### *Transportation*

- Transportation options in and around the airport must be increased and improved.
- Transportation to and from the airport is extremely important. Rail between San Antonio and Austin will benefit travelers throughout the region.
- We must work to ensure freeways leading to the airport (US 281, I-35, IH-10) are easy to navigate.
- The master plan should emphasize commuter rail connection and be mindful of efforts to get people to the airport without cars.
- The 410 / 281 intersection needs to be a multimodal facility.

#### *Innovation, aesthetics and location*

- The airport's location extremely beneficial and provides easy access to destinations throughout San Antonio.
- We have a great environment around the airport and need to preserve it.
- Tourists' first and last impressions must be that our airport is state-of-the-art.
- The airport is the gateway to San Antonio. Upon entering the airport, travelers should feel that this is a vibrant and beautiful city.



- We should focus on optimization of the airport and its tools and effectively use technology to connect to customers.

#### *Environment*

- We must closely manage the airport's noise impact.
- We need to be environmentally responsible in developing the airport master plan.
- Sustainability should be a top priority.

#### *Capacity*

- We must ensure our future capacity needs will be met with respect to growth.
- The airport's 2,600 acres is landlocked, so it is imperative to recognize the limitations of the property.
- What can this location accommodate? How do we best utilize what we have?
- Thresholds should be developed to determine when we need to add capacity.

#### *Customer Service*

- To ensure San Antonio is a place people want to come back to, the airport should be friendly to both businesses and families.

### **Rapid Round Table Discussion:**

Following the goals and visioning discussion, Mr. Gallis asked each member to participate in a "rapid round," by providing a brief, one-sentence goal for SAT. The following is a list of goals verbalized:

- SAT should represent cost effective convenience.
- Using the airport should be a unique and authentic experience.
- We must be a leader in service.
- Our focus should be improving transportation to and from the airport.
- Multimodal connectivity is key.
- The airport should be an industry leader in technology and service.
- SAT should represent seamless interconnectivity.
- SAT should be convenient and innovative.
- SAT should be the most accessible airport in Texas.
- We must focus on market share opportunities.
- Maximize facility land use
- Integrated transportation hub for premier service



- The airport should be a fun place to be while traveling.
- Save time, save money.
- We only have one chance to make a first impression.
- SAT should represent convenience for residents and visitors alike.
- We should aspire to be an innovative transportation hub.
- SAT should make a great impression on travelers and be regionally impactful.
- Improve customer service.
- We must strengthen relationship between the airport and logistics businesses.

### **Conclusion:**

Larry Bauman discussed the project's next steps, to include completing the master plan analysis, scheduling the next committee meeting in early 2010 and posting committee feedback, agendas and presentation on the airport's website, [www.sanantonio.gov/aviation](http://www.sanantonio.gov/aviation). Committee members may email additional questions and comments to [Vision2050@kgbtexas.com](mailto:Vision2050@kgbtexas.com).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.